First ‘Entrovation’ Expo Shines Despite Dark Weather

By Emily Topilow
Arts & Life Editor

Gray skies and heavy winds didn’t keep the Beachwood community from attending the new BHS junior achievement expo: Entrovation, held on Friday, April 19.

Entrovation is a registered trademark of marketing teacher Greg Perry’s students, combining the concepts of innovation and entrepreneurship. At the expo, local businesses displayed their wares and highlighted their innovative businesses. Perry’s students organized the event, which is replacing The Green Dream eco expo.

“It was an extraordinarily successful event, especially for its first year,” Perry said. “We ended up with 170 exhibitors. Thousands of people attended… I would call that a smashing success.”

Vendor tents ranged from ice cream stores like “Sweetie Fry” to banks such as First Federal of Lake-wood. There was a huge tent to protect vendors and attendees from the rain. At one table after another, companies were lined up with their products on display.

“It’s a good networking opportunity,” said Samantha from First Federal Lakewood.

Even the Beachwood robotics team got involved, showing off their innovative robot.

“We are supporting the idea of innovation and entrepreneurship,” said sophomore robotics team member Danny Stanciu.

Jake Goodman, a former BHS marketing student, manned the Bizdom table. Bizdom is a “tech accelerator” that funds start-up companies.

The mood was upbeat. Music played in a huge 60-foot wide by 200-foot long tent with lights and an Entrovation stage.

The Beachwood City Board of Education unani-mously passed a resolution stating their intent to rehire Beachwood City Schools Superintendent Dr. Richard Markwardt to his current position on July 2 after he retires on June 30.

Markwardt’s retire-rehire contract, which ends in 2015, also includes a salary raise of $8,000 for this year, retroactive to Aug. 1. After his retirement, Markwardt will receive his pension from the State Teachers Retirement System in addition to a new retirement rule change that was the chance to retire and then be rehired by the Board in my current position,” Markwardt said.

The retirement rule change that Markwardt said would impact him most will be the reduction of his cost of living allowance, or COLA.

[The COLA is] a two percent raise in a person’s pension over the next several years… I would have lost four years of that had I postponed my retirement,” Markwardt said.

According to Markwardt, another set of changes to the STRS are scheduled for 2015, when his new contract ends.

Markwardt explained the longer a teacher or administrator works, the higher the percentage of earnings go into their pension payments.

This year, Markwardt will be retiring with roughly 32 years of service in education.

On average, the STRS sees about 6,000 teachers and administrators retire every year in Ohio, according to Nick Treneff, Director of Communications Services for the STRS.

According to Markwardt, the retirement rule changes are likely to increase the number of teacher and administrator retirees in 2013 and 2015.

According to Treneff, fluctuations in the economy also influence the number of retirees.

Other Retire-Rehires

According to Markwardt, three other district staff members are either currently under a retire-rehire contract, or have applied for one.

Math teacher Carole Katz, who has taught in the district for nearly four decades, applied for retire-rehire last year. Katz was brought back on as a part-time teacher and part-time consultant for the district.

Guidance counselor Marcia Alperin and English teacher Peter Harvan have applied for retire-rehire and are expected to be rehired to their current positions for the next school year, after retiring.

“[Retire-rehire is] something that, honestly, is better for me, and it’s something that’s better for the district in terms of a cost-savings,” Markwardt said.

Benefits of Retire-Rehire

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Generally, the district pays teachers and administrators with retire-rehire contracts less than they earned before retirement.

“It [is] a good opportunity for everyone... the district, the community and for Dr. Markwardt,” said Weiss, a nine-year veteran of the Board.

“We as a district, we as a board, never do something like this strictly for savings for the district,” said Weiss, continuing that the Board offered Markwardt a retire-rehire contract because they feel he is best for the district.

“[Alperin and Harvan] have not yet been rehired, nor have I, by the Board, because there’s an obligatory time period... where once the Board announces its intention to rehire some-one [who has retired], they have to wait a certain number of days and there has to be a public hearing,” Markwardt said.

Markwardt wants to assure students and parents that those under retire-rehire contracts in Beachwood are expected to work just as hard as they had prior to beginning their new contract.

“[It will never be the case] [to not work as hard as normal], I don’t think, with anybody that I would recommend as a retire-rehire,” Markwardt said.

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“[He’s done a great job for this district. The Board has been extremely, extremely happy [with him].” Weiss said, continuing that the Board considered Markwardt to be one of the top superintendents in the state.

“When we have the best, we like to keep the best,” he said.

Looking Back

Moving Forward

Markwardt has chosen to part ways from the district after his new contract ends in 2015. Reflecting upon Cont’d on pg. 3
What’s That Smell in the 100 Hallway? Here’s the Sewage Situation

By Cathy Perloff
Opinion Editor

“It smelled awful. A student actually tapped me on the shoulder and warned me to stop breathing,” freshman Inkyu Kim said.

“The smell was absolutely repulsive. It was nauseating,” sophomore Casey Blum said.

“It started to come up from the pipes,” said English teacher Todd Butler. “It wasn’t a huge amount, but the stench was unbearable for many people.”

What caused this awful stench in the 100 hallway? At least two times this year, a pipe has backed up, leaking sewage onto the floor.

BHS Principal Ed Klein said the issue could be simply a matter of people flushing things like paper towels and feminine products that clog up the system. Klein said it’s also possible that the flushing is exacerbating an underlying issue.

“A few paper towels shouldn’t be creating a blockage in our system, and it’s not,” said Assistant Superintendent Robert Hardis.

There’s a couple possible theories to explain the situation. The leading theory is that the pipe connection is not the right shape. Currently, the connection from the plumbing pipes to the outside sewage system is a t-shape. Many think that a y-shaped connector would fix the problem.

“So why was the y-shaped connector not considered originally?”

“Sometimes when you build something it doesn’t function as it was intended,” said Dave Stahl, senior project manager at Turner Construction.

School administrators believe the sewage backup was likely caused by a bad pipe connection or a problem with the installation of the sewer line. Image by Ab Pishavii.

“The second theory is that the line was not installed properly. “Over a certain distance plastic will bow a little bit,” Hardis said. If the pipe is not installed at the perfect incline, problems can occur. “Our worry is that this line has a few dips in it, and when you have an incline the solid waste is going to back up.”

However, according to Stahl, this problem is not likely. “To our knowledge it was all installed correctly, it passed the building officials’ inspections but there’s a transition from one pipe to another which we believe could be done better,” he said.

Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds Jeff Smith also said that an installation issue is possible but not the most likely culprit. “We’re looking at the t and the y [connectors] more than anything else,” Smith said.

To prevent such leaks from re-occuring, the maintenance staff examines the pipe weekly. “The custodial staff keeps an eye on it so if the water’s running slow, we contact the plumbing staff keeps an eye on it so if the water’s running slow, we contact the plumbing staff,” Smith said.

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“The bathroom was closed while this was happening,” said English teacher Todd Butler. “It’s a bandaid,” said Stahl. The contractors will not attempt a permanent solution until this coming summer.

“This summer right in the middle of that hallway we’re going to cut a several foot wide swath of the hallway right out and cut [out] the t-shape connector and put in a y-shape connector and then test the heck out of it,” said Hardis.

While this is expected to permanently stop the problem, nothing is guaranteed. “At this point I don’t think there’s going to be a problem, but you can never guarantee with construction,” Smith said.

One thing that is for certain is that this summer work will not be free. Smith said. However, Stahl said that a subcontractor, not the Beachwood taxpayers, will be paying.

While there is still the potential of a leak, there is no risk to students. “The bathroom was closed until it was all sanitized. It was all quickly and efficiently dealt with. At no point was safety to students, security, welfare, health [threatened],” Klein said.

“We’re not going to live with sewage waste backing into our classrooms when this project’s done,” Hardis said.

Entrovation Cont’d from pg.1

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There were two massage stations. Radios were held for a chance to win a new car. Food trucks were lined up waiting for hungry customers, offering Cajun and Asian cuisine as well as East Coast Custard. “Sweetie Fry,” along with other businesses, offered free samples.

The event was a huge success. There was even a surprise sneak peak performance from the cast of Rent.

The winners of the Innovative Entrepreneur were Danny Sheridan’s My Wireless Lights, which won 1st place along with $3,000. In 2nd place, Brad Tramer’s J. Riley USA won $1,500. And finally in 3rd place, the BHS robotics team winning $500.

The money raised during Entrovation will go towards a new classroom and a new school store.

“The students earned well over $80,000 this year,” Perry said.

Any remaining money will go towards next year’s Entrovation.

“It was a very meaningful learning experience for the students,” Perry said. “It pushed them outside the boundaries of what they would normally do. [This event] taught them all about business, marketing and entrepreneurship by actually engaging in it throughout the year.”

SPECIAL 20% DISCOUNT FOR BHS
Students, parents and teachers can enjoy one or both of Cleveland POPS Orchestra’s next two concerts at 20% OFF regular ticket prices.

Friday, May 3rd – 8 pm
Severance Hall (BHS promo code 14424)

The POPS welcomes back one of its favorite guest artists. Byron Stripling exudes pure happiness through his trumpet. His vocals and amusing repartee reminds one of “Satchmo,” yet it is all very much Byron. Hear him let loose on some mighty fine New Orleans licks, and you’ll know why Byron is a much-in-demand entertainer.

Friday, May 17th – 8 pm
Severence Hall (BHS promo code 14424)

Cleveland POPS Orchestra’s 12th Annual Annual Salute to Our Armed Forces Honoring All Branches of the Military, Veterans and their Families

• Cleveland POPS Orchestra
• Cleveland POPS Chorus
• Mutual Gifts Gospel Choir
• Austin Carr (Mr. Cavalier)

With a special tribute to the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg

Sponsored by Medical Mutual

Visit or call the Severance Hall ticket office at 216-231-1111 and mention the promo code 14424 to receive your discount.

Also available online at www.clevelandpops.com (discount expires May 18, 2013)
By Jon Li  

**Byers' Job:** The state Dept. of Education will replace the Ohio Graduation Tests with 10 new tests in the 2014-2015 school year. The new tests will be created by PARCC.

**The State of Ohio:** Ohio is one of [45] states in the nation that are aligned with the Common Core standards, and those standards are new and multifaceted,” Klein said.

**Budget:** The state of Ohio is one of [45] states in the nation that are aligned with the Common Core standards, and those standards are new and multifaceted,” Klein said.

**District's Finances:** Markwardt says that the district's finances are in good shape.

**New School Report Cards:** New school report cards will also be issued in 2015 to provide more information about school performance.

**District's Graduation Rate:** Mills said.

**Prom Accessories:** A gallery of women's fashion accessories. Featuring comprehensive collections including jewelry, handbags, and more. Discover fuses with value for a fun, upbeat shopping experience.

**Top Tier:** Mills said that the district’s finances are in good shape.

**Taxes:** We’re working on some initiatives right now that, if they come to fruition, are going to be tremendously exciting initiatives in the areas of math and science education,” he said.

**Financial State of the District:** Mills agreed there are some benefits for the district in retiring its service contracts. “We’re working on some initiatives right now that, if they come to fruition, are going to be tremendously exciting initiatives in the areas of math and science education,” he said.

**State of the Governor's Pen:** At any stroke of the governor’s pen, all of our budget plans and the number of students in AP courses.

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Should Israel Do More to Protect Human Rights for Palestinians?

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has engulfed Israel since before its founding in 1948. Conflict intensified when Israel gained control of the Palestinian occupied regions of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights, as a result of the Six-Day War. Israeli settlement building in these areas has been condemned by the UN and the EU. Meanwhile, Palestinian terrorists have sent suicide bombers and launched rockets into Israel. As Israel makes headlines with Obama’s recent visit and its approaching 65th birthday, the Beachcomber poses the question: Should Israel do more to protect the human rights of Palestinians?

By Anshek Niraj
Staff Writer

Some things just don’t seem to go away: the Cleveland sports championship drought, Justin Bieber, homework and the Palestinian conflict. Living in Beachwood, it is impossible not to hear about the threats Israel must deal with on a daily basis, especially in relation to the Palestinians.

Unfortunately, in living in Beachwood, most students basically only hear one perspective, and it seems to be radical to even consider that the Palestinians have any rights at all. But Palestinians are people too, and that is why Israel should respect their rights.

First, it is important to recognize that if Israel respects the rights of the Palestinian people, they will not become a threat. There are millions of Palestinians who already live in Israel.

According to the Israeli Central Statistics Bureau, approximately 20% of Israel’s population identifies as Palestinian. Not all are sympathetic to Israel or respect its sovereignty, yet democratic rights are granted to these Palestinians despite being such a controversial minority group. That is something to be admired in Israel’s conduct. However, the situation is still far from ideal.

In Jan., The Economist noted that Israeli Arabs are so marginalized that many no longer bother to vote. Arab towns receive much less government funding than Jewish towns do even in education, and Arab Israelis have often found that political parties focused on Arabic issues are barred. This is certainly not a fair system.

Having such a large population of educationally marginalized individuals certainly is not beneficial to any country’s economy. But more importantly, these people already live in Israel, so any harm they may cause is already a risk that is unlikely to be alleviated by unequal treatment.

In fact, inequality fuels Palestinian resentment, and that resentment is not the least aid the Palestinians need. Even if Israel is uncomfortable granting full rights to all Palestinians, addressing the ones who are already citizens of their country could be a step in the right direction.

Of course, the most contentious issues in Israeli-Palestinian conflict are the restrictions on the rights of the Palestinians in freedom of movement and Israeli settler violence. Human Rights Watch reports that Israel has been holding 178 Palestinians in “administrative detentions,” in which the military holds prisoners without charge or trial and keeps evidence secret. These detentions are six months, but can be renewed over and over again.

B’Tselem, an Israeli non-governmental organization, reports that the Palestinians suffer from indefinite detention, freedom of movement and Israeli settler violence.

By Jon Shapiro
Staff Writer

The “two state solution” is often discussed as the best potential result of the conflict between Israel and the Palestinian conflict. Living in Beachwood, it is easy to see that the implementation of the real issues. It should be clear that Israel is better than the Palestinian Authority (PA) in protecting human rights, economic advancements and raising living standards for the Palestinian people.

The real human rights conflicts can be seen when looking at a more specific group of Israelis: Arab-Israelis. These members of Israeli society share almost everything with Palestinians in the Palestinian territories. The difference is how they identify themselves. In stead of Israel the PA with other Arabs, they willingly choose to live in Israel.

Having a political party that criticizes Israel on human rights issues? Isn’t Israel terrible for Arabs?

The Economist reported in November that the PA was close to bankruptcy. This Council on Foreign Relations study showed that the PA could not pay for social services. However, the PA still had significant foreign aid. If the PA is unable to pay for social services, then how is it going to pay for the human rights violations?

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If these lands belong to Israel, the Palestinians need to do the people who live on them, and they must be treated fairly.

Palestinians deserve human rights.

Good Government Must Come First

The Oslo Accords (officially the Declaration of Principles) is the document that created the PA. Without this declaration, the people of the PA would not be living in the state of Israel, with cheaper gas and safer human rights standards.

This tension creates more problems inside the PA, provoking response from the international community. Unlike the “simple” answer of a two-state solution, there is no comfortable granting of human rights.

Imagine by Erlein Tacastacas

By Anshek Niraj
Staff Writer

Should Israel Do More to Protect the human rights of Palestinians?

Because there are many physical barriers and restrictions have made it harder for the Palestinians to purchase their basic necessities, receive an education, and seek medical treatment without going through a complicated bureaucratic process.

This is clearly a gross violation of human rights and must be addressed. As for the building of settlements, the United Nations Human Rights Council found in Jan. of this year that Israel’s settlements violating international law and the human rights of the Palestinians, and asked Israel to stop.

I understand that many believe Israeli’s view these settlements as land rightfully belonging to them, but there are people living there who are displaced and have nowhere to go.

Israel, if it is going to continue this policy, has a moral obligation to guarantee the rights of displaced people so they are not forced into deplorable living conditions. If these lands belong to Israel, then so do the people who live on these lands and they must be treated fairly.

By not guaranteeing these rights to the Palestinian people, Israel has been creating its own enemy. Rather than solving anything, the problem is only perpetuated by human rights violations.

Israel and the Palestinians have to accept their reality. They live in the same land and have the same natural resources. Without a mutual respect for the rights of each other’s citizens, there will only be more violence and conflict.

Palestinians need to stop taking aggressive actions against Israel, especially against civilians, with out expecting Israel to defend itself. But Israel needs to stop aggravating the Palestinians with human rights violations—or at least protect the rights of Palestinians currently in Israel.

I know this whole situation seems unsolvable, and with the current political climate in the US, I don’t see any resolution in the near future for the Palestinians in the rest of the territories. This economic inequity is the true human rights abuse.

An article in The New York Times article found that Israel spends twice as much on settlement residents as on other Israeli. This spending (on construction and infrastructure) significantly reduces the cost of living in the territories. Israeli-controlled and PA-controlled land has the same natural resources. The only difference is who is governing. If granted the remainder of the land, Israel would significantly improve the living conditions.

Many attribute the difference in economic conditions to the blockade Israel has in place. However, Iran and Hamas of the PA have reportedly been able to smuggle goods inside the territories. In fact, the actual goods chosen to be smuggled more likely is the terror attacks, which Israel blocks smuggling trade of weapons, the one thing that Iran attempts to get to Pakistan. If they attempted to bring food or supplies, a credible argument in favor of sovereignty could be made. However, they choose to abandon their people’s will being in favor of more weapons and more bloodshed.

One effect of increased cost of living is protests. In fact, The Economist reported in the week of protests, “Down with the Oslo Accords!”

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New State Tests Will Do More Harm Than Good

Staff Editorial

By mandating new state tests that are projected to have lower passing rates than the current OGTs, Ohio politicians certainly make it seem as if they are cranking the whip on our students. But it isn’t just the absent link to educational standards that are being raised.

A new test does not always mean a better test. We are just another generation caught up in another attempt to raise the bar. It takes on an educational system. It has become clear in recent years that the whirlwind of educational reforms will keep coming.

It happened in 2003, when the 9th Grade Ohio Proficiency Tests, and it is bound to happen again. The next few generations will have to suffer through these revisions, as our nation creeps its way into what will eventually be a completely revamped education system.

End-of-course exams have a legitimate purpose: to keep our education system from falling by better evaluating classroom effectiveness and holding both teachers and students accountable for progress. The truth of the matter is that we, as a nation, are not ready to completely reform our education system, as many previous generations had just the same utilities in school resources and parent involvement (or lack thereof) in a child’s education. These are some of the most fundamental issues that riddle the education paradigm, and, try as we may, no testing formula can take these things into account.

Students and teachers are well aware of what lies under this new system’s flimsy façade. Woe to those with test taking anxiety, or who hope to avoid a high-stress scheduled test. From now on, testing forces educators to teach to a test and forces students to learn test-taking techniques more than having knowledge with real world application.

Such a learning environment is pressure-inducing, and not conducive to higher-order thinking or self-exploration. End-of-course exams will force teachers to focus on breadth, not depth of material. In this wide-but-shallow approach, the opportunity for total immersion in a specific subject is lost.

Teachers will have an even more difficult time arranging field trips and other educational enrichment takes that place out of the classroom because they will be too busy cramming information into students’ heads.

It’s true, change is scary and we all want to get back to those days at Walden. As teachers are trying to adjust to new evaluations tied to student performance, and students are trying to adapt to new expectations, everybody is bound to be tempted to raise the stakes on our education system. Because if your generation caught up in another attempt to raise the bar, it’s time for the next broadcasting base: Case Western Reserve. No, there hasn’t been a merger, and no, the company hasn’t sold itself at top dollar to foreign investors, unlike their favorite coffee chain. Rather, it’s time for the program—in its present form, at least—to come to an end.

Furthermore, thank you to everyone in my sophomore health class, especially Jake and Woo, for inadvertently coining the term SenderSmash and inspiring me with a permanent name and logo to embrace—which I have trademarked, thank you very much.

The primary purpose of SenderSmash was obvious—to help students better relate to their teachers—but there were, and still are, many layers behind that. On some level, what I really aimed to convey was that people are just people. On another level, I hoped to champion the idea that if you really believe in something, the best thing you can do is take a chance.

From the making of SenderSmash, there are many anecdotes I wish I could share. There’s the unique feeling I got after hours in my teachers’ classrooms—sometimes even getting locked in the building—listening as they kicked back and turned off their professional personas. You’ve heard the tales in condensed form, but if you only could’ve listened to the interjections in between, pictured the people telling them and chucked when catching a few casual words I could never publicly release. There are so many people from the future of the teaching profession, and for the future of our grandchildren as the ante will continue to be upped.

No, We Are Not the Worst Generation Ever

By Cathy Perloff

This generation and their all-consuming isolation have surely gone to destroy the world. Closed into little personalized bubbles, they are destroying everything near and dear to American values: community, purity, and industriousness.

This familiar perspective is erroneous and narrow-minded. These attacks ring of the traditional fear of change often spurred by older generations, blind to their own experiences. They say we are lazy and apathetic. They say we are consumed with technology.

First, thank you. I realize that any successful radio program, whether small or large-scale, would not be possible without the support, listentship, and appreciation of its fans. A huge thank you goes out to my students and the feedback that listened to my work, agreed to interviews, provided feedback and helped market content. Thank you to those who had the patience and (to those who did not) to put up with my ceaseless Facebook posts, website e-blasts and advertising plugs.

Furthermore, thank you for the new recording, hosting and producing the show has been one of my favorite experiences so far. Before the school year is over, stay tuned for a final goodbye episode. For now, this is what I want to say:

Listen. I’m not saying that all the world’s problems have been solved. I’m not saying that we have the ideal culture. From jazz to rock n’ roll, music has always been under scrutiny and seems unfair to single out the day’s newest popular genre. It’s doubtful many naysayers’ parents were fond of Bob Dylan’s lyrics about everyone getting stoned.

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Beachwood’s Best:

Seniors Armani Smith & Toni Nicholas

Senior Shravya Govindgari and junior Varun Jambunath pose in Mr. Klein’s office.

Senior Eirelin Tacastacas & junior Boyan Patev

Photos by Christina Phelps
Prom Proposals

BHS’s juniors and seniors took prom-asking to a new level. From concocting elaborate math problems to soliciting aid from Mr. Klein, these high schoolers found creative ways to ask their dates to the biggest event of their high school years. How can the date-less compete with these winners?

“I had a lot of ideas for how I was going to ask her to prom. I knew her birthday was around the corner, and I like cake so I was like, ‘I can ask her using a cake?’ Oh and I really liked the idea of incorporating fire, so the candles worked out nicely.”
Senior Daniel Padilla

“He really killed two birds with one stone. Surprising me with a birthday cake that had ‘prom?’ spelled on it was a great way to both ask someone to prom and wish them a happy birthday.”
Senior Rachel Skwerer

“I was definitely surprised. I actually thought my car was covered in trash when I saw it from across the parking lot, and then I realized it was actually Armani asking me to prom.”
Senior Toni Nicholas

“I got the idea from Pretty Little Liars.”
Senior Armani Smith

“I came up with this idea when I was thinking about how to minimize mishaps in the execution. While the card trick I was planning may have been more elaborate, I placed my confidence in double-checking my math for a secure execution...sure enough, I was able to ‘integrate’ her into my prom plans.”
Junior Boyan Patev

“He came up with the integrals himself, that takes talent. And he had one of my friends give me the integrals so as not to arouse my suspicions. But I figured he would do something nerdy.”
Senior Erlein Tacastacas

“I was really surprised when I heard my name on the PA. He already asked me informally before, so I didn’t expect or suspect anything. It was a nice surprise. Also, he gave me a plastic eyeball. That was more than enough to say yes.”
Senior Shravya Govindgari

“I tried to go for a big surprise. Who doesn’t love being called to Mr. Klein’s office?”
Junior Varun Jambunath

“I heard some rumors around school...I knew Devin didn’t have a date at the time, so I was hoping he would ask me. I kind of expected him to ask me, but it was a total surprise when he did.”
Senior Ashley Small

“I was just going over some ideas with my friends, and I came up with that. At first I wanted Mr. Chase to ask over the PA system. Mr. Chase is more enthusiastic.”
Senior Devin Moore

“There were a lot of different parts to the ask, so I was a little nervous about everything running smoothly. In the end I think everything went very well though. I was happy about it.”
Senior Max Yanowitz

“I actually have asked Max to prom consistently for the past two years (there is even a post on his wall from a year ago). He was reluctant to give me an answer, until finally he posted on the comment from a year ago this past week answering my question: yes.”
Senior Maddie Adelman
Social Media Takes a Seat in Modern Day Classrooms

By Christina Phelps
& Sri Yudha Upadhati

The personal lives of teachers have always intrigued students, and the advent of social media has only peaked this interest.

“Students kept wanting to friend me on my personal Facebook account. Then they would ask in class why I wasn’t friending them,” social studies teacher Karissa Piper said. “It became ridiculous. As social media became something that more people had, the expectation was that you could reach people through social media.”

An often repeated friend requests on her Facebook account, Piper set up another Facebook account, distinguishing one as a personal account and the other as a professional account.

The official Board Policy on social media revised in July 2011 states that teachers and allowed to access social media from school if it is for an “educational purpose,” and the educator has “prior approval of the Principal.” However, using the District wifi to access social media for personal use is express prohibited.”

This Board Policy was emailed to teachers and administrators in January as a reminder.

“I can see why the district would want to continue to monitor [social media use], especially in light of recent situations,” Piper said.

According to an anonymous Beachcomber survey in which 96 BHS teachers responded, only 18% of teachers choose to ‘friend’ or communicate with students on Facebook. 53% of teachers friend graduated students on separate Facebook accounts.

76% of teachers who responded are advisers of academic clubs or sports teams, and 48% of those test students for activity-related reasons.

Piper uses her professional account to update students on class assignments and give feedback.

“I tend to give positive feedback if someone has accomplished something, it’s really excited about making a team, or something like that,” said Piper. “Otherwise, I tend not to engage in that kind of discussion because you have a written record of everything you’re saying. And I don’t know to what extent that may be mis-interpreted by someone who’s just seeing part of it.”

“I certainly try not to engage in anything that’s personal beyond a superficial level,” Piper said.

Students have found classwork updates through social media helpful.

“I think it would be convenient for students if more teachers used Facebook or Twitter because students could quickly see what is required in each class,” said junior Chad Tindel.

Assistant Principal Paul Chase agreed that there are appropriate ways to use social media as a way to reach students.

“I think it’s completely inappropriate. Teachers are for school and social media is for socializing with friends. [Teachers] can just send an email about [school assignments]. It doesn’t have to be through Facebook or Twitter. Students would hopefully remember when they have a test or quiz.”

Even after students graduate high school, Piper does not friend them on her personal account. “They’re still not friends,” Piper said.

On the other hand, some adults do not use social media sites at all. While Chase agreed social media can have a place in the classroom, he has chosen not to have a Facebook account.

“I don’t have a Twitter or Facebook account...on purpose. I personally decided not to do that. I think it’s a risk I don’t want to take,” Chase said.

While social media has its place in society, many agree that genuine relationship bonding happens in person.

“Teacher-student bonding happens face to face. That happens at school, at academy when somebody comes and tells me something exciting that happens in their life and I’m excited for them,” Piper said.

Ultimately, the role of teachers should still be to educate and protect students.

“Rightfully so, there are just different roles by which we are governed,” Piper said. “It’s important to remember that when you’re in high school you’re still a kid...You’re still developing and it’s important above all else that you are protected,” Piper said.

Students and teachers communicate through social media for a variety of school related reasons.
Michele Mills: ‘Leaning in’ as District Treasurer for 24 Years

By Christina Phelps
Editor-in-Chief

Now that women have established a strong foothold in many professions, Facebook’s Chief Operating Officer Sheryl Sandberg has been the catalyst of a new wave of feminism; her feminist manifesto Lean In: Women, Work and the Will to Lead encourages women to become more engaged in their careers.

Women like Sandberg and Hillary Clinton provide strong role models, but where can young women in Beachwood look for role models close to home?

Beachwood School Treasurer Michele Mills has climbed the rungs of the corporate ladder even while raising a child, found her voice in the workplace while going through a divorce and, inevitably, battled gender discrimination.

“I think when women are strong we get called names, and when men are strong they’re thought to be good leaders,” Mills said. “If women behave that way we’re called...b****s. I mean frankly, I’ve been called that myself.”

As the Chief Financial Officer for Beachwood Schools for 24 years, Mills has garnered the district an Aaa bond rating from Moody’s Investor Services and produced an award-winning Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for 24 straight years. Additionally, Mills has served as the financial report reviewer and President of the Ohio Association of School Business Officials.

Mills has worked hard to get to where she is. A graduate of the University of Akron and Baldwin Wallace, Mills worked for Clevite Industry Enterprises where she thought she would find her voice in the work

“I did [encounter gender discrimination] early on in my career, especially when I worked in industry,” Mills said. “I was one of a few women. When I got promoted, [men] would resent it, and I [thought] ‘I know more than you, I work harder than you, and I’ve earned this.’”

According to a 2010 study done by Catalyst.org, 68% of women believe sex discrimination exists. According to The Institute for Women’s Policy Research, the wage gap between sexes has only minutely closed between the ‘80s and 2000; even today, women only earn 79 cents to every dollar earned by a man in the same position.

“I always thought I’d be the CFO [Chief Operating Officer] of something and go somewhere and make a lot of money. That’s what you do when you’re young,” Mills said, going on to indicate that she eventually had to amend her family was not an option. “I needed balance in my life,” Mills said. She admits that, early on in her career, balancing a work and home life was hard to achieve, and neglecting her family was not an option.

“One of the hardest decisions for me was when I put my daughter in daycare when she was six months old. I was a wreck,” Mills said. “But if I’m honest with myself, it was good for me to come back to work. I don’t think I could have stayed home much longer than six months.”

Mills is not alone. Even super politician/celebrity Hillary Clinton has admitted the pressures of working while trying to have a personal life. “Women can have it all but not all at once, not at the same time,” Mills said. Right now I think I’m doing both. But it wasn’t without sacrifice. Photo by Kate Opre

Concerned that many women sacrifice their ambition too early in their lives, Sandberg urges women not to subordinate their career early on for fear that a busy job will interfere with family planning down the line.

After working in the highly demanding private sector for so long, Mills decided it was time to search for equilibrium in her life.

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In 2012 Clinton told Marie Claire magazine, “I have been on this high wire of national and international politics and leadership for 20 years. It has been an absolutely extraordinary personal honor and experience. But I really want to just have my own time back. I want to just be my own person. I’m looking forward to that.”

So, that age old question: Can women have it all?

According to a 2013 The Atlantic Wired article, 66% of individuals think women cannot have it all. Sandberg claims women can, but her critics have pointed out that Sandberg is a special case. Holding double degrees from Harvard and having a net worth of 2.7 billion dollars, Sandberg’s superhuman energy level and multi-million dollar salary may have bought it all for her.

So what does Beachwood City Schools’ most powerful woman think?

“Women can have it all but not all at once, not at the same time,” Mills said. “Right now I think I’m doing both. But it wasn’t without sacrifice. I have no regrets. I’m a pretty happy person. I like what I do, I love my kid, I love my husband. We have a great relationship. I feel like everything is in balance.”

Women like Sandberg and Mills both have admitted... I don’t think that’s specific to any sex. I don’t think that’s specific to any man or woman.”

Highlights from BHS Extracurriculars’ Seasons

**The Beachcomber**

*First place ranking from Ohio Scholastic Media Association
*27 individual awards won by Beachcomber staff members

**Culinary Arts**

*Summer Kolt and Ryan de la Vega placed 2nd and 3rd at the FCCLA State Tournament in Pastry Arts Cakes.

**Sci. Olympiad**

*Seven BHS teams placed in the top five for their event.
*1st Place Disease Detectives - Shraya Govindgari & Lizzie Bream
*2nd Place Experimental Lab - Danny Padilla, Erlein Tacastacas & Shraya Govindgari
*3rd Place in Circuit Lab - Kiran Bangalore & James Starkman

**Robotic**

*Won the Buckeye Regional Imagery Award at the FIRST Robotics Competition, The FIRST Responders (also know as the Beachwood Robotics Team)

**Speech & Debate**

*Jessie Gill won 1st in Ohio for Humorous Interpretation
*Beth Moses won 2nd in Ohio for Congress
*Anshika Niraj won 4th in Ohio for Congress

**Marketing**

*West Geauga senior Geordi Kogovsek and BHS senior Robbie Kaufman, members of Jean Getz’s Excel TECC marketing class, placed 1st and 2nd respectively at the DECA marketing state championships

**Academic Challenge**

*Defending small school national champions
*Estimated top 10 in Ohio ranked against schools of all sizes
*7-3 record NAQT State Championship
Google Glass: Will it Bring Us Clarity?

By Max Bleich
Online Editor in Chief

Google put a phone in your pocket, maps on your computer, android on your TV, a cheap tablet in your backpack and now they're trying to take over a new part of your life: your face.

Google Glass Explorer is a new venture to put googly googles on your eyes. Google aims to roll out Glass Explorer in the third Fiscal Quarter of 2013. Units will be available just in time for the holiday season. The price is not yet known. Technology experts from The New Times and The Verge predict it will run somewhere between $999 and $2499.

Glass will be a heads-up display. It will always be in your peripheral vision and always accessible with the simple prompt, "okay glass," followed by a command:

"Okay glass, take a picture." "Okay Glass. Takes a picture.

"Okay glass, call mom." Glass calls your mother right away.

Glass is thin and light, purposely designed to get out of the way. You aren't supposed to notice it on your face. The goal is to have the technology there when you need it, and have it disappear when you don't.

Imagine wanting to check the weather. Ask Google Glass. What about directions to a coffee shop? Google Glass.

And do you want to show your buddy what it's like to be 300 feet in the air in a hot air balloon? Yes, Google Glass can show you.

But Google Glass is more than a product strapped to your face. Imagine being able to access the plethora of information available on Google's servers, talk to your friends anytime and anywhere without having to lift a finger or being able to wish your children goodnight while showing them the view from your hotel window on a business trip. You can do all these things and more with Google Glass.

Google's Glasses are also very sleek and stylish, coming in the colors of charcoal, tan, giraffe, white, blue, and sky. But some fear that Google Glass will disrupt the flow of everyday life. Critics suspect people will walk around thoughtlessly and bump into people while using Google Glass, just as they already do with their smartphones.

But others think Google Glass is the wave of the future, as it will not disconnect us, but rather, it will bring us closer.

Image source: google.com/glass/start

Rent

By Rachel Lubinger
Social Media Manager

Fri., April 26 at 8:00 pm
Sat., April 27 at 8:00 pm
Sun., April 28 at 2:00 pm

"Rent is about a group of friends who are starving artists on the East Side of Manhattan, which are HIV positive and some of which are crossdressers. They all struggle to make a connection in a world that shuns them.

"Rent speaks to this generation of young people, which makes it stand out from other shows like Gypsy. I don't think it's a normal play for a high school to do because it's so controversial.

"I really hope the student body comes out to support this show. It would be nice for students on stage to feel the support since they have worked so hard."

- Director Sheila Heyman

War Horse: Moving the Entire Industry Forward

By Micah Josefowitz
Staff Writer

Gloriously succeeding in both stunning action and subtle humanity, War Horse, playing at the Palace Theater until April 21, is a fascinating, richly textured tale that is remarkably enhanced by next-generation technical theater prowess, and very, very much a model going forward for commercially successful non-musicals.

In pre-WWII 1912, a cowardly drunkard named Arthur Narracott (an entertainingly foolish Brian Keane) bets his family's mortgage on the ability of a newly born horse to plow a field. His son Albert (a cattarhic Alex Mott) is charged with the task and develops a close relationship with the horse, whom he lovingly names Joey. When they are victorious, their celebration is short lived when his father sells Joey to the army.

Rebelliously, Albert commits to joining the army to accompany Joey. When they are tearfully separated, Albert grows up with soldiers, and Joey grows up with fellow horses, all in the midst of a harrowing war. Eventually, they are reunited.

When the horrors of combat spell doom for Joey, a blinded Albert miraculously calls on the favors of his soldiers to bridge the distance between the armies and bring the two together.

Albert is the star of the show, both an irritable horinonal adolescent, and a sensitive, affectionate hero whose brotherlike experiences with his horse Joey and their subsequent separation are truly touching. The English townsfolk and German soldiers are as captivating as they are authentic.

But the true acting accomplishment here is the animals, who are controlled onstage by athletic, emotive, vocal operators who create a compelling, lifelike performance both in dramatic, comedic, and in-between situations. The Handspring Puppet Company, a South African firm, brilliantly created the jumbo-sized animal puppets. Period vocalization and John Williams-esque orchestration fit so well into the play that they hardly go noticed.

Channeling Apple, the sets are simple and innovative. Particular action sequences are rather psychedelic due to the masterful motion technology that the puppetry cooperates with the scenery.

War Horse's only fault is its won, predictable story. Imagine nearly any play or film about a young soldier in World War I, and combine it with the tone and themes of a film about a young boy and his lost dog, à la Air Bud, and you'd get something nearly identical to War Horse. Similarities could easily be drawn to Charlotte's Web and others children's tales. However, an unexpected, shocking dark turn in its third act puts it next to war films like Jarhead.

Additionally (and rather unfortunately), a young farm girl in war-torn Germany named Emilie (played by a laughable Lavita Shaurice) is acted so acerbically, she sadly brings down any other scene she is in and any other actors near her whenever she appears on the stage. Her portrayal is maddeningly moronic, shamelessly unrealistic, desperate, and unnecessarily schizophrenic. The character, and the entire production, with its rare faults, would do well if she was replaced by another actress.

War Horse is truly a rare sight in an intertobeen acting ensemble that adores the material, a serene spectacle of sexy engineering, an emotional story that manages to breathlessly pull new life into its own dramatic canon. War Horse is a show you cannot miss.

What You Need to Know About Rent

Image source: warhorseonstage.com

While officially billed a "play," War Horse has much in common with a Broadway musical.

"Some think Google Glass is the wave of the future, as it will not disconnect us, but rather, it will bring us closer."

Image source: google.com/glass/start

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"I really hope the student body comes out to support this show. It would be nice for students on stage to feel the support since they have worked so hard."

- Director Sheila Heyman
**THE SCOREBOARD**

Spring sports are well into their seasons. Here is an overview of records at publication

Photos and reporting by Aaron Lowenkamp, Sports Editor

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<td><strong>GIRLS LACROSSE</strong></td>
<td>15 individuals placed in the top three at first three invitationals.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BOYS LACROSSE</strong></td>
<td>Games:0-4</td>
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- **We of course want to defend our title as conference championship.**
  - Head Coach Ben Singer

- **We've got much stronger teams this year especially on varsity so our goal is to win states as a team, not just in individual matches.**
  - Captain Andrew Romanoff

- **Our goals are to build up the program since we're a pretty fresh program. Improving hitting is a big focus for us.**
  - Captain Hannah Rubenstein

- **We've got some great runners and as always, it's our goal to make it to states in as many events as we can.**
  - Asst. Coach Jamie Lader

- **We would like our physical lacrosse skills to catch up to our knowledge of the game. Our players know what to do and now we need to be able to execute our game plan.**
  - Coach Jen Tramer

- **What we're trying to do this year and for the next few years is develop our fundamentals and recruit more from the underclassmen and middle schoolers. Numbers and fundamentals are priorities.**
  - Captain Jonah Firestone

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Left: Senior Rob Goldberg, first baseman, shows off his level swing. According to Asst. Coach Todd Butler, players have been working to improve their performance at bat. The strategy seems to be paying off in the team's record so far this season.
Sydney Ross

1. Can boys and girls really ‘just be friends’?
   I seem to manage.

2. Why should you have 15 minutes of fame?
   Because it’s my turn.

3. What person should be added to Mt. Rushmore?
   Obama - Black Power!

4. What is your favorite thing about the BHS English department?
   MR. DAVIS!!!

5. What words of wisdom do you have for your fellow BHS classmates?
   Peace out suckas!!!